HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REVIEW POLICY NO. 6701 IN LIGHT OF THE STATE'S EFFORT TO RENOVATE AND BUILD TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SCHOOLS AND TO REPORT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, children in Hawaii deserve to be educated in environments and facilities that are conducive to learning and meet twenty-first century standards; and

WHEREAS, school districts throughout the State suffer from aging schools, maintenance backlogs, and budget shortfalls; and

WHEREAS, on average, schools in Hawaii are sixty-five years old and more than forty schools exceed one hundred years in age; and

WHEREAS, student achievement is limited by the current condition of school facilities; and

WHEREAS, the State is exploring a project to renovate and build new schools to meet twenty-first century standards to address its aging school facilities; and

WHEREAS, twenty-first century schools would incorporate new strategies for school design to accommodate a wide range of learning styles, promote community interaction with the school, and allow the use of advanced technology and energy efficient systems; and

WHEREAS, section 302A-1602, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and Board of Education policy no. 6701, relating to acreage guidelines for elementary, middle, and high schools may limit the State's plan to renovate and build new schools that meet twenty-first century standards; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Board of Education is requested to review policy no. 6701 and section 302A-1602, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in light of the State's effort to renovate and build twenty-first century schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education is requested to report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014 its recommendations, including any proposed legislation, regarding whether the acreage guidelines of section 302A-1602, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and policy no. 6701 should be changed to accommodate the twenty-first century schools concept; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Chairperson of the Board of Education.

OFFERED BY: Tirdes

MAR 1 3 2013